

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Tsutomu OKABE, et al.

SERIAL NO: New Continuation-in-Part Application

GAU: Unassigned

FILED: Herewith

EXAMINER: Unassigned

FOR: WAFER PROCESSING APPARATUS HAVING DUST PROOF FUNCTION

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

**REFERENCES**

- The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references were filed in parent application Serial No.: 10/330,092 (filed December 30, 2002), as were either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.
- A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

**RELATED CASES**

- Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. A copy of the patent(s), together with a copy of the claims and drawings of the pending application(s) is attached along with PTO 1449.
- A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

**CERTIFICATION**

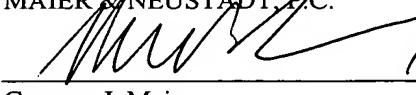
- Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

**DEPOSIT ACCOUNT**

- Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
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 11-17-03

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Philip J. Hoffmann  
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Form PTO 1449 (Modified)  U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT			ATTY DOCKET NO. 245166US3 CIP		SERIAL NO. New Continuation-in-Part Application		
			APPLICANT Tsutomu OKABE, et al.				
			FILING DATE Herewith		GROUP Unassigned		
			<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>				
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,139,459	08/18/92	T. TAKAHASHI, ET AL.			
	AB	5,772,386	06/30/98	A. MAGES, ET AL.			
	AC	6,082,948	07/04/2000	B. FISHKIN ET AL.			
	AD	6,071,059	06/06/2000	A. MAGES, ET AL.			
	AE	6,352,403	03/05/2002	B. FISHKIN, ET AL.			
	AF	6,375,403	04/23/2002	A. MAGES, ET AL.			
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION		
	AO	JP 2-65607	03/06/90	JAPAN (with English Abstract)	YES	NO	x
	AP	JP 2525284 (JP 4-157749)	08/14/96	JAPAN (with English Abstract)			x
	AQ	JP 2722306 (JP 6-215420)	03/04/98	JAPAN (with English Abstract)			x
	AR	JP 2757102 (JP 6-268044)	05/25/98	JAPAN (with English Abstract)			x
	AS	JP 2-137951	05/28/90	JAPAN (with English Abstract)			x
	AT	JP 2850279 (JP 7-235580)	01/27/99	JAPAN (with English Abstract)			x
	AU	JP 2864458 (JP 10-56050)	03/03/99	JAPAN (with English Abstract)			x
	AV	JP 3-184479	08/12/91	JAPAN (with English Abstract)			x
<b>OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)</b>							
	AW						
	AX						
	AY						
	AZ					<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached	
Examiner					Date Considered		
*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							